

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 117349

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. MOSCOW 10012 WAS VERY HELPFUL AND WE WILL BE DRAWING UPON IT TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT WITH CODEL PRICE AND NITZE. THUS FAR, WE HAVE SEEN NO PRESS PICKUP OF THE ALLEGED QUOTE. CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED TO US THAT QUOTE APPEARS NO WHERE IN THEIR NOTES.

2. RE PARA 6, MOSCOW 9783, WE APPRECIATE THE POINT ABOUT PRECEDENTS FOR FUTURE CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS. WE BELIEVE THE INTERIM AGREEMENT GIVES US AN EXPLICIT LANGUAGE ON UNLIMITED CHARTERS (BOTH IN TERMS OF NUMBERS AND DEFINITION) AS CAN BE EXPECTED. THEREFORE, IT DID NOT SEEM NECESSARY TO PRESS FOR RECONFIRMATION. FURTHER, HAD WE BEGUN TO STALL ON THEIR CHARTER REQUESTS BY ASKING FOR WRITTEN RECONFIRMATION OF A POINT ALREADY AGREED UPON, THE SOVIETS COULD HAVE DECIDED WE
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WERE RENEGING ON THE AGREEMENT AND SET THE STAGE FOR CHARTER DENIALS LIKE THOSE OF 1975.

3. REF MOSCOW 4153, THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME MORE EXPEDITIOUS AND DIRECT TCP PROGRAM OUT OF BUCHAREST AND MOSCOW IS UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON. HIAS HAS BEEN PUSHING IT AND WE UNDERSTAND THE GENERAL PROPOSAL HAS AT LEAST SOME

SUPPORT FROM A KEY STAFFER OF THE EILBERG SUBCOMMITTEE. AT A MAY 8 MEETING INS CO SEEMED INTERESTED IN THE POSSIBILITY OF A ONE OR TWO-DAY STOPOVER IN VIENNA OR FRANKFURT.

4. MOSCOW 10100 WAS FIRST WE HAD HEARD OF MCATEER VISIT ON COAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH. GERMAN DESK INFORMS US THEIR INFORMATION IS THAT MCATEER PLUS TWO ARE TRAVELLING IN PRIVATE CAPACITY WITH GRANT FROM THE MARSHALL FUND TO UNDERTAKE STUDIES OF MINE SAFETY. HE WAS WITH, OR ASSOCIATED WITH, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR A YEAR AGO WORKING ON SIMILAR PROJECTS, BUT HAS LEFT THAT DEPARTMENT. HE APPARENTLY CONVEYED HIS UNOFFICIAL STATUS ACCURATELY TO THE GERMAN OFFICIALS INVOLVED, SO IT APPEARS POSSIBLE THAT SOVIETS MISUNDERSTOOD THIS ASPECT. WE HOPE TO CONFIRM THE FOREGOING AS FACT TOMORROW AND GET DOE COMMENTS FOR A MESSAGE TO YOU IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO.

5. FOR GOSNELL FROM MCCALL: WE ARE LOOKING INTO ASSIGNMENT POSSIBILITIES AND DISCUSSING WITH MEYERS. SOV IS FILLED, BUT WE HAVE YOU MUCH IN MIND AND WILL SEE WHAT WE CAN COME UP WITH.

6. RE YOUR 10005 ON DEPARTMENT'S ANSWERS TO REPPERT'S QUESTIONS, WE RETRANSMITTED TODAY THE CABLE WE SENT MAY 4 (STATE 114143) WHICH OC/T TELLS US YOU RECEIVED THE SAME
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DAY. THIS SEEMS TO BE ONE OF SEVERAL CABLES SENT THAT DAY THAT YOU APPARENTLY DID NOT SEE. CAN YOU DETERMINE WHAT MIGHT HAVE CAUSED THE PROBLEM? VANCE

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